

2003 WASHINGTON STATE HIGHER EDUCATION TRENDS AND HIGHLIGHTS

Educational Attainment of Washington Citizens

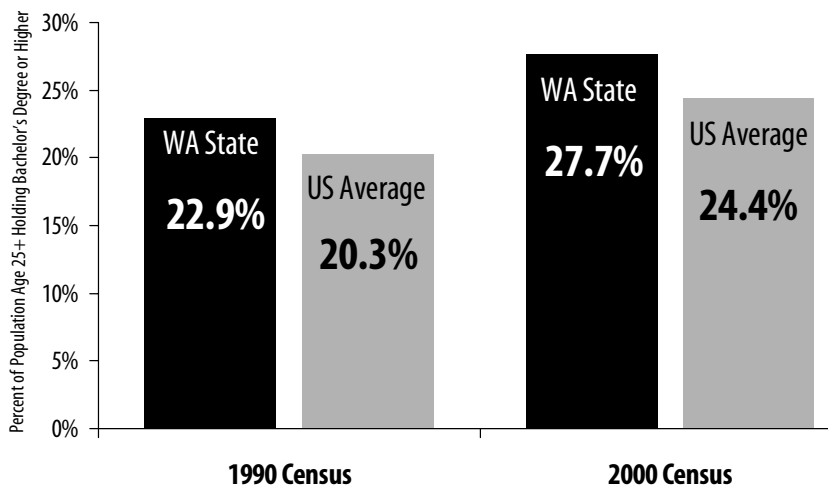
Census 2000

State (Ranked)	Percent
1. Dist. of Columbia	39.1
2. Massachusetts	33.2
3. Colorado	32.7
4. Maryland	31.4
5. Connecticut	31.4
6. New Jersey	29.8
7. Virginia	29.5
8. Vermont	29.4
9. New Hampshire	28.7
10. Washington	27.7
11. Minnesota	27.4
12. New York	27.4
13. California	26.6
14. Hawaii	26.2
15. Utah	26.1
16. Illinois	26.1
17. Kansas	25.8
18. Rhode Island	25.6
19. Oregon	25.1
20. Delaware	25.0
21. Alaska	24.7
22. Montana	24.4
23. Georgia	24.3
24. Nebraska	23.7
25. Arizona	23.5
26. New Mexico	23.5
27. Texas	23.2
28. Maine	22.9
29. North Carolina	22.5
30. Wisconsin	22.4
31. Pennsylvania	22.4
32. Florida	22.3
33. North Dakota	22.0
34. Wyoming	21.9
35. Michigan	21.8
36. Idaho	21.7
37. Missouri	21.6
38. South Dakota	21.5
39. Iowa	21.2
40. Ohio	21.1
41. South Carolina	20.4
42. Oklahoma	20.3
43. Tennessee	19.6
44. Indiana	19.4
45. Alabama	19.0
46. Louisiana	18.7
47. Nevada	18.2
48. Kentucky	17.1
49. Mississippi	16.9
50. Arkansas	16.7
51. West Virginia	14.8
US Average	24.4

Percent of Washington's Population Age 25 or More Who Hold a Bachelor's Degree or Higher

- ▶ Although Washington ranks low in the percentage of its population enrolled in four-year colleges, the state ranks high in educational attainment.
- ▶ In 2000, nearly 28 percent of Washington's adult population had earned a bachelor's degree or higher – the 10th highest rate among the 50 states.
- ▶ The Washington economy has usually outperformed the U.S. economy and provided relatively high wage job opportunities, attracting large numbers of well-educated migrants to the state. This contributes to Washington's overall high level of educational attainment.

Percent of Washingtonians with Bachelor's Degree or Higher Remains Higher than National Average



SOURCES: US Census Bureau.